

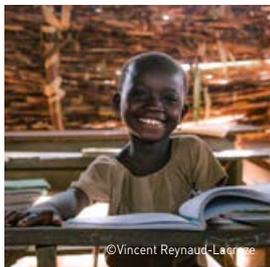


# CHANGING THE WORLD THROUGH EDUCATION

## 10-YEAR STRATEGIC ORIENTATIONS **AIDE ET ACTION 2030**



# AIDE ET ACTION 2030 AN AMBITION



Aide et Action has developed a strategic plan at a defining moment, reflecting a period of change at a global level but also within our own organisation. The educational needs for a sustainable world are changing – and we have to adapt to them.

While overall, unprecedented progress has been made in access to education over the past two decades, glaring inequalities remain – both in terms of access and quality, as well as between and within countries. For instance, even in 2020, 258 million children, adolescents and young people are still out of school<sup>1</sup>, globally.

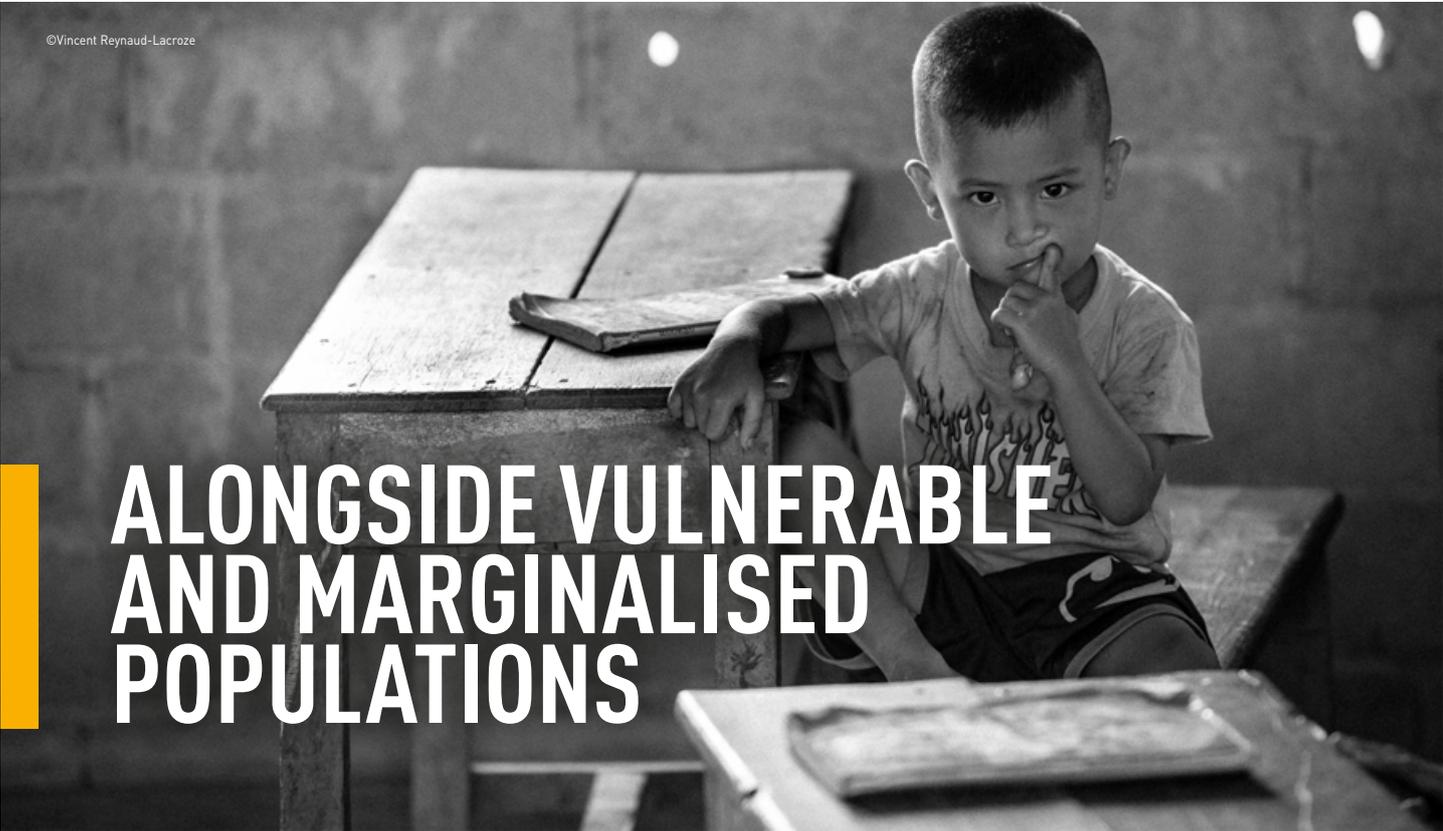
In the framework of our 10-year strategic orientation, we are refocusing our actions to reach the most vulnerable and marginalised populations, so that they can take

their development into their own hands and contribute to a more peaceful and sustainable world.

We promote lifelong access to quality education. In order to meet the needs of all children, youth and adults in changing societies, we provide support to all actors in the sphere of education, aiming to increase their autonomy in our areas of intervention.

Our strategy instills the dynamics of change, within Aide et Action, which calls for the alignment of all stakeholders in order to improve the quality and impact of our actions and be accountable for them.

<sup>1</sup> UNESCO, 2019



# ALONGSIDE VULNERABLE AND MARGINALISED POPULATIONS

As pointed out by many international organisations (UNESCO, World Bank, NGOs, etc.), the world is facing a crisis in the sphere of education due to persisting inequalities in global education systems. The crisis has emerged because of under-investment in the quality of education and the lack of inclusion, leaving the most marginalised to fall by the wayside, among other things.

Aide et Action is convinced that Quality Education for All requires inclusion, in order to *"ensure that every child and young person acquires the basic skills essential to participate fully in society"*.<sup>2</sup> Aide et Action strives to direct its programmes towards the most vulnerable and marginalised populations (the poorest, out-of-school children, at risk of dropout, and dropouts, migrants, street children, children with disabilities, children living in crisis situations, ethnic minorities etc.), so as to give them the right to education and empower them to act. The figures are there: *"46% of the most marginalised groups have very little chance of achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 4) in 2030; 31% have no chance at all"*<sup>3</sup>.

While working with these vulnerable and marginalised populations, Aide et Action considers the issue of gender inequalities as a priority, as there are even more stumbling blocks to girls' and women's education. While we know that they contribute significantly to reducing socio-economic inequalities and promoting sustainable economic growth, globally 9 million girls of primary school age will never enter a classroom, compared to approximately 3 million boys. In sub-Saharan Africa, 4 million girls will never attend school, as compared to 2 million boys<sup>4</sup>.

Aide et Action's work is designed to ensure that no one is left out, throughout their schooling. To enable learning for all, it is necessary to rebuild education systems, train teachers and broaden the educational content – beyond reading, writing and arithmetic – to include learning to build sustainable societies, and to adapt pedagogical approaches that are open to the environment surrounding children, youth and adults. In this way, we can create the opportunity to provide quality education for all – an education system in which everyone is an actor.

<sup>2</sup> OECD 2016

<sup>3</sup> Unlock education for everyone, Save The Children, 2019

<sup>4</sup> Global Partnership for Education (GPE), 2019

To do so, our efforts are anchored in a “Territorial” and multi-actor approach, focusing on three types of programmes that cover an individual’s educational life cycle. They enable a global approach to educational issues and the identification of synergies with the various educational actors concerned.

**Our actions dedicated to girls and women incorporate these three priority areas.**

**1 Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE):** Aide et Action prioritises innovative ECCE approaches to improve cognitive development and learning outcomes of children aged 0-8 years old.

**2 Access and quality of education for primary, middle and secondary levels:** Aide et Action ensures increased civic engagement in education and government accountability for equitable access to quality education thereby improving learning outcomes.

**3 Lifelong learning and vocational training:** Aide et Action addresses skill gaps and strengthens resilient livelihoods to improve economic opportunities and future prospects for marginalised groups.



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# MEETING TOMORROW'S CHALLENGES

In order to adapt our methods of intervention, but also to train children and young people to meet tomorrow's challenges, our programmes must integrate the constraints that weigh on quality education for all.

- **Given the growing insecurity, promote education for peace, citizenship and "living together in harmony":** 21.5 million of out-of-school children live in conflict zones<sup>5</sup>.
- **Given climate change issues, promote environmental and sustainable development education:** According to the World Bank, climate change could push 100 million people back into poverty over the next 15 years.
- **Given the population growth situation, continuous urbanisation and migration, promote alternative education systems and the use of new technologies. Promote in-service training to make up for the shortage of teachers:** nearly 69 million new teachers are needed to enable access to quality universal primary and secondary education by 2030<sup>6</sup>.

- **Overcome the shortage of kindergartens and early childhood centres:** 175 million children in low and middle income countries are currently deprived of pre-school education and are at a risk of not developing to their full potential by the time they are 5 years old<sup>7</sup>.

On one hand, Aide et Action seeks to promote and develop the autonomy of each citizen, so that he/she becomes an actor of social change at local, regional, national or even international levels. On the other hand, we wish to create opportunities for ourselves and for vulnerable and marginalised populations to advocate with institutions and public authorities to assert their rights, including the right to education.

<sup>5</sup> Unlock education for everyone, Save The Children, 2019

<sup>6</sup> IUS, UNESCO

<sup>7</sup> Leaving the Youngest Behind, Theirworld, April 2019

# ADAPTING OUR APPROACHES

**For 40 years, Aide et Action has been supporting and mobilising stakeholders in the sphere of education worldwide** to respond to the educational problems of different contexts of intervention, such as in the Sahel, India, Haiti, Laos or Europe, among others.

This diversity of territories, with their multiple fragilities, reminds us that vulnerable and marginalised populations have educational needs not just in fragile countries but also in those that are not so fragile, but where strong inequalities nonetheless persist.

Regardless of the territory concerned, Aide et Action's intervention strategy aims at strengthening the quality of its actions and its impact and at meeting the demand for accountability. To achieve this, we chose to optimise the implementation, as well as the promotion of the innovations tested in our projects. This goes through the production and dissemination of studies, or by documenting our communication actions, our advocacy, or our support for scaling up our successful projects.

Through the implementation of a quality-oriented approach, as well as change-oriented monitoring and evaluation processes, along with our documentation (capitalisation) processes, Aide et Action pursues continuous self-improvement. We believe our determination to be a learning organisation will bring about sustainable social change.

**Experimentation, Enhancement and Deployment** are the three pillars of our renewed approach.



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# THE MEANS TO REACH OUR AMBITION

**To implement its strategy, Aide et Action is changing to become a single organisation whose singularity is that it will be led by a plural and multicultural Governing Body.** We are seeking a governance set-up based on the principles of power-sharing, accountability and shared interest – one that leads and upholds the organisation’s strategy and guarantees its implementation.

Aide et Action is strengthening its programme team and making quality and the optimisation of its impact a major orientation of its current strategic plan. For this, the Quality, Research-Innovation and Knowledge Management Departments have been set up. They support the programmes and teams and ensure the relevance of our intervention strategy. Teams contribute to improve the impact of our actions in our areas of intervention and experimentation, along with other education stakeholders, with solutions in response to the educational issues identified.

In the territories located in least developed countries, middle-income countries and developed countries, Aide et Action will adjust its resource allocation methods and may refocus its actions in order to ensure that it has the capacity to provide support with the aim of bringing about sustainable changes.

The Programme Department’s is supported by the various support functions: Fundraising, Communication and legal, administration and finance, human resources and information systems services.

Aide et Action is committed to implementing a balanced development of its activities, equating its ambitions with its resources, in order to achieve a social mission ratio of 80/20.



# CONCLUSION

Our 10-year strategic orientations fundamentally refer to our identity, values and rely on all practical, methodological, experiential, technological, cultural and/or intercultural contributions.

They were developed to strengthen us as a dynamic, learning organisation focused on continuous improvement, in order to optimise our impact in supporting vulnerable and marginalised populations to access quality education and build more sustainable futures.

In 2019, Aide et Action reached more than 1.9 million beneficiaries - directly and indirectly - including 950,170 children and youth (49% of whom are female), and 800,549 adults (63% of whom are female). Under our new strategic direction and building on our 40 years of experience, we are now aiming to triple our impact over the next 10 years.

To meet our objectives, we will rely on the reflections reached during the our Transformation process, as well as relying on our Vision, Mission and Values, to guide us across all the societies and contexts we work in.

TO CARRY OUT THESE STRATEGIC ORIENTATIONS, AIDE ET ACTION WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF ITS PARTNERS - BOTH FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL - WHO HAVE WORKED AND CONTINUE TO WORK SHOULDER TO SHOULDER WITH US, ACROSS THE WORLD, FOR ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL.

## Aide et Action

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